

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 14342 041744Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5355

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14342

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UN, CY, UK

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN DISCUSSION ON UNFICYP

REF: LONDON 14254

1. AS WE REPORTED REFTEL BRITISH INTEND INTRODUCE UNFICYP INTO DISCUSSION AT EC WORKING GROUP ON SOUTHERN AND MEDITERRANEAN EUROPE IN PARIS NOVEMBER 6. THEIR MAIN REASON IS TO STIMULATE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EC PARTNERS. HOWEVER, DISCUSSION WILL BE GENERAL.

2. FCO HAS SENT ITS THOUGHTS TO NEW YORK FOR DISCUSSION WITH UN SECRETARIAT. UNLESS SYG HIMSELF PROPOSES SIGNIFICANT NEW REDUCTIONS, BRITISH DO NOT INTEND TO. THEY ARE ALREADY GOING AHEAD WITH REDUCTION OF THEIR ARMORED RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON. BRITISH COS WHO RECENTLY CAME THROUGH LONDON HAS TENTATIVELY CONVINCED FCO OFFICIALS THAT IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR UNFICYP TO CARRY OUT ITS PRESENT ACTIVITIES IF UNFICYP IS REDUCED BEYOND THAT. AMONG THOSE ACTIVITIES FCO'S WESTON MENTIONED TO US WAS NEED TO VISIT TURKISH ENCLAVES DAILY INSTEAD OF LESS
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PAGE 02 LONDON 14342 041744Z

FREQUENTLY AS BEFORE CURRENT CRISIS. HE ALSO SPOKE

GENERALLY OF NEED TO BE PRESENT IN SUFFICIENT FORCE TO
FACE DOWN EOKA-B MILITANTS.

3. ANOTHER ARGUMENT IN PAST HAS BEEN THAT TRANSFORMATION
TO PRIMARILY OBSERVER FORCE HAS BEEN ASSUMED TO MEAN
MAINLY OFFICERS, AND FORCE OF OFFICERS IN SUFFICIENT
STRENGTH TO MEET PRESENT NEEDS WOULD BE MORE EXPENSIVE
THAN CURRENT UNFICYP. HOWEVER, EXAMPLE OF UNDOF COMPOSI-
TION MAY KNOCK PROPS OUT FROM UNDER THAT ARGUMENT.

4. THESE ARE JUST SOME IDEAS FLOATING AROUND FCO. USUN
MAY WISH TO GET BETTER READING OF WHAT HAS BEEN PROPOSED
TO UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS AND THEIR REACTIONS. FCO
POSITION WILL START TO SOLIDIFY ONLY AFTER THESE HAVE
BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

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